

**REPORT OF THE AUDIT OF THE  
MEADE COUNTY  
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES**

April 27, 2006

**DOUGLAS R. WISE & COMPANY PSC**  
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**  
**AUDIT EXAMINATION OF THE**  
**MEADE COUNTY**  
**SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES**

**April 27, 2006**

Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC has completed the audit of the Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes for Meade County Sheriff as of April 27, 2006. We have issued an unqualified opinion on the financial statement taken as a whole. Based upon the audit work performed, the financial statement is presented fairly in all material respects.

Financial Condition:

The Sheriff collected taxes of \$9,301,795 for the districts for 2005 taxes, retaining commissions of \$348,235 to operate the Sheriff's office. The Sheriff distributed taxes of \$8,942,602 to the districts for 2005 Taxes. Taxes of \$32 are due to the districts from the Sheriff and refunds of \$0 are due to the Sheriff from the taxing districts.

Deposits:

The Sheriff's deposits were insured and collateralized by bank securities or bonds.



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To the People of Kentucky

Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor

John R. Farris, Secretary

Finance and Administration Cabinet

Honorable William Haynes, Meade County Judge/Executive

Honorable Clifford Wise, Meade County Sheriff

Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

#### Independent Auditor's Report

We have audited the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of April 27, 2006. This tax settlement is the responsibility of the Meade County Sheriff. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the Audit Guide for Sheriff's Tax Settlements issued by the Auditor of Public Accounts, Commonwealth of Kentucky. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 1, the Sheriff's office prepares the financial statement on a prescribed basis of accounting that demonstrates compliance with the modified cash basis, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the Meade County Sheriff's taxes charged, credited, and paid as of April 27, 2006, in conformity with the modified cash basis of accounting.

To the People of Kentucky  
Honorable Ernie Fletcher, Governor  
John R. Farris, Secretary  
Finance and Administration Cabinet  
Honorable William Haynes, Meade County Judge/Executive  
Honorable Clifford Wise, Meade County Sheriff  
Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated August 10, 2006, on our consideration of the County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas R. Wise & Company PSC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC  
Audit fieldwork completed -  
August 10, 2006

MEADE COUNTY  
CLIFFORD WISE, COUNTY SHERIFF  
SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES

April 27, 2006

<u>Charges</u>	<u>County Taxes</u>	<u>Special Taxing Districts</u>	<u>School Taxes</u>	<u>State Taxes</u>
Real Estate	\$ 1,608,887	\$ 1,533,758	\$ 3,456,129	\$ 975,760
Tangible Personal Property	261,521	157,295	306,633	255,802
Intangible Personal Property				77,253
Fire Protection	1,171			
Increases Through Exonerations	47	38	102	29
Franchise Corporation	298,030	179,253	377,197	
Additional Billings	197	389	337	77
Oil and Gas Property Taxes	21,530	17,244	46,249	13,057
Limestone, Sand, and Mineral Reserves	3,078	2,927	6,611	1,866
Penalties	12,076	11,311	25,725	7,420
Adjusted to Sheriff's Receipt	(61)	(24)	(72)	-
Gross Chargeable to Sheriff	<u>\$ 2,206,476</u>	<u>\$ 1,902,191</u>	<u>\$ 4,218,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,331,264</u>
<u>Credits</u>				
Exonerations	\$ 10,445	\$ 7,814	\$ 19,850	\$ 5,025
Discounts	31,210	27,559	61,197	21,571
Delinquents:				
Real Estate	36,972	32,849	79,399	22,416
Tangible Personal Property	184	116	216	202
Intangible Personal Property				22
Total Credits	<u>\$ 78,811</u>	<u>\$ 68,338</u>	<u>\$ 160,662</u>	<u>\$ 49,236</u>
Taxes Collected	\$ 2,127,665	\$ 1,833,853	\$ 4,058,249	\$ 1,282,028
Less: Commissions *	<u>90,713</u>	<u>48,535</u>	<u>154,213</u>	<u>54,774</u>
Taxes Due	\$ 2,036,952	\$ 1,785,318	\$ 3,904,036	\$ 1,227,254
Taxes Paid	2,034,659	1,783,291	3,898,890	1,225,762
Refunds (Current and Prior Year)	<u>2,293</u>	<u>2,027</u>	<u>5,146</u>	<u>1,460</u>
Due Districts or (Refunds Due Sheriff)		**		
as of Completion of Fieldwork	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 32</u>

\* And \*\* See Page 4

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

MEADE COUNTY  
 CLIFFORD WISE, COUNTY SHERIFF  
 SHERIFF'S SETTLEMENT - 2005 TAXES  
 April 27, 2006  
 (Continued)

\* Commissions:

10% on	\$	10,000
4.25% on	\$	4,409,737
3.8% on	\$	4,058,249
1% on	\$	560,811
0% on	\$	262,998

\*\* Special Taxing Districts:

Library District	\$	0
Health District		0
Extension District		0
Soil Conservation District		0
City of Brandenburg		0
City of Muldraugh		0
City of Ekron		0
Flaherty Fire District		0
Meade Fire District		0
Battletown Fire District		0
Payneville Fire District		0

Due Districts or (Refunds Due Sheriff)	\$	<u>0</u>
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MEADE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

April 27, 2006

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Fund Accounting

The Sheriff's office tax collection duties are limited to acting as an agent for assessed property owners and taxing districts. A fund is used to account for the collection and distribution of taxes. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

B. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement has been prepared on a modified cash basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when charges, credits, and taxes paid are reported in the settlement statement. It relates to the timing of measurements regardless of the measurement focus.

Charges are sources of revenue which are recognized in the tax period in which they become available and measurable. Credits are reductions of revenue which are recognized when there is proper authorization. Taxes paid are uses of revenue which are recognized when distributions are made to the taxing districts and others.

C. Cash and Investments

At the direction of the fiscal court, KRS 66.480 authorizes the Sheriff's office to invest in the following, including but not limited to, obligations of the United States and of its agencies and instrumentalities, obligations and contracts for future delivery or purchase of obligations backed by the full faith and credit of the United States, obligations of any corporation of the United States government, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of this state, and certificates of deposit issued by or other interest-bearing accounts of any bank or savings and loan institution which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or which are collateralized, to the extent uninsured, by any obligation permitted by KRS 41.240(4).

Note 2. Deposits

The Sheriff maintained deposits of public funds with depository institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) as required by KRS 66.480(1)(d). According to KRS 41.240(4), the depository institution should pledge or provide sufficient collateral which, together with FDIC insurance, equals or exceeds the amount of public funds on deposit at all times. In order to be valid against the FDIC in the event of failure or insolvency of the depository institution, this pledge or provision of collateral should be evidenced by an agreement between the Sheriff and the depository institution, signed by both parties, that is (a) in writing, (b) approved by the board of directors of the depository institution or its loan committee, and (c) an official record of the depository institution. These requirements were met.

MEADE COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
April 27, 2006  
(Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk – Deposits

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a depository institution failure, the government's deposits may not be returned. The County Sheriff does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk but rather follows the requirements of KRS 41.240(4). As of April 27, 2006, all deposits were covered by FDIC insurance or a properly executed collateral security agreement.

Note 3. Tax Collection Period

A. Property Taxes

The real and personal property tax assessments were levied as of January 1, 2005. Property taxes were billed to finance governmental services for the year ended June 30, 2006. Liens are effective when the tax bills become delinquent. The collection period for these assessments was October 27, 2005 through April 27, 2006.

Note 4. Interest Income

The Meade County Sheriff earned \$13,092 as interest income on 2005 taxes. The Sheriff distributed the appropriate amount to the school district as required by statute, and the remainder will be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 5. Sheriff's 10% Add-On Fee

The Meade County Sheriff collected \$43,063 of 10% add-on fees allowed by KRS 134.430(3). This amount will be used to operate the Sheriff's office. As of August 10, 2006, the Sheriff is due a refund of \$26 in 10% add-on fees from his fee account.

Note 6. Advertising Costs And Fees

The Meade County Sheriff collected \$865 of advertising costs and \$3,460 of advertising fees allowed by KRS 424.330(1) and KRS 134.440(2). The Sheriff distributed the advertising costs to the county as required by statute, and the advertising fees will be used to operate the Sheriff's office.

Note 7. Related Party Transactions

The Meade County Sheriff's office conducted business with Meade County Bank. The Meade County Sheriff's office manager is an officer and employee of Meade County Bank. Transactions involving Meade County Bank and the Meade County Sheriff's office should be reviewed by the Meade County Ethics Board to determine that no ethical violations occurred.

REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND  
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS





The Honorable William Haynes, Meade County Judge/Executive  
Honorable Clifford Wise, Meade County Sheriff  
Members of the Meade County Fiscal Court

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And  
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial  
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

We have audited the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of April 27, 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated August 10, 2006. The County Sheriff's financial statement is prepared in accordance with a basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Meade County Sheriff's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statement being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Compliance And Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Meade County Sheriff's Settlement - 2005 Taxes as of April 27, 2006 is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And  
On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of The Financial  
Statement Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards  
(Continued)

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management and the Kentucky Governor's Office for Local Development and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the specified parties.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas R. Wise & Company PSC". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Douglas R. Wise & Company, PSC

Audit fieldwork completed -  
August 10, 2006

